

BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANC

Val. 2, No. 30

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"I have not yet begun to fight!"



CHINATALKS TOUGH WITH U.S. OVER TAIWAN By Associated Press

China demanded the United States "correct its error" and immediately cancel plans to sell air defense equipment to Taiwan.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao also urged Congress to grant Beijing permanent low-tariff trade rights. President Clinton submitted legislation to establish permanent normal trade relations with China, but he later conceded he did not yet have the votes to pass the accord.

Zhu expressed "deep concern" over the Pentagon's intention to sell 162 Hawk intercept guided missiles and items needed to reconfigure Taiwan's TPS-43F air surveillance radar.

Washington should "fully recognize the seriousness of its arms sales to Taiwan, correct its error immediately and stop all weapons sales," he said.

"The U.S. side keeps on violating its commitments by selling a large amount of sophisticated weapons to Taiwan persistently," Zhu said. "It constitutes a severe encroachment on China's sovereignty and flagrant interference in China's internal affairs."

MILITARY MUST EMBRACE NEW INNOVATION

By Robert L. Smith, Providence Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

It was a peculiar topic for an institution that favors neat, orderly rows of Sailors and predictable results at sea. But in an era of great change, the ability to innovate is critical, the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Richard Danzig, said.

Danzig's speech keynoted the first day of a two-day conference that combined the creative minds of the Naval War College, the Navy's graduate-level school for officers, and the Security Studies Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Danzig, a Rhodes Scholar, set a dot-com tone as he called for a cul-

ture that embraces innovation and change. He moved away from the podium and addressed the audience of about 700 military men and women in a relaxed, town-meeting style.

"A culture of innovation is difficult to sell and harder still to achieve," he said.

"People tend toward conformity for good reason. With any change, the risks are high, and that is especially true with a military force," Danzig said.

"If future generations judge the Navy of the early 21st century as a failure, it will be because naval planners were too conservative, not too radical," Danzig said.

CAMPAIGN 2000

BUSH CAMP COURTING MCCAIN CAMP By Richard L. Berke

He has not even been officially crowned the Republican presidential nominee, but already Gov. George W. Bush finds himself confronted with a predicament. It poses a significant test to his leadership skills. How could he win over Sen. John McCain, and his crucial block of independent and Democratic loyalists, without antagonizing the Republican establishment that pulled Bush to victory?

Already, top Bush aides are quietly reaching out to the McCain camp, sending signals that they respect him and want to work with him. But many people close to McCain said he might not be inclined to play along unless Bush embraces the centerpiece of his candidacy, his sweeping campaign finance proposal.

The quandary for Bush is that his advisers say it is inconceivable that the Texas governor would sign on to McCain's prescription for campaign reform because it bans unregulated soft money and is scorned by the Republican establishment.

BONHOMME RICHARD'S

ALMANAC

Capt. Douglas W . Keith, Commanding Officer
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STOCK MARKET

ALL MAJOR STOCK INDEXES SOAR By Robert D. Hershey Jr.

Technology issues paced a strong stock market rally Thursday as the Nasdaq composite index soared through the 5,000 mark for the first time while the broadest market gauge of all, the Wilshire total market index, surged above 14,000, also a record.

Prices climbed steadily without benefit of any obvious trigger as investors, piling into technology stocks, were joined by those seeking bargains in other sectors. The Dow Jones industrial average pulled out of an early 118-point hole to end with a gain of 154.20, or 1.56 percent, to finish back above the 10,000 mark. At 10,010.73, the blue-chip average is now less than twice the Nasdaq composite compared with five times as much in early 1997. The Standard & Poor's 500 advanced 34.99 points, or 2.56 percent, to end at 1,401.69.

SUNDAY'S SITE TV SCHEDULE

CHANNEL 2

1000 HUSH

1130 KRIPPENDORF'S TRIBE

1300 INCOGNITO

1500 BRIDE OF CHUCKY

1630 MEMPHIS BELLE

1815 IN DREAMS

2000 FOR RICHER OR POORER

CHANNEL 6

1000 THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
1500 2 DAYS IN THE VALLEY
1645 THE FACULTY
1830 MUDER AT 1600
2015 POLTERGEIST
TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DUE TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TAX CUT HELPS MINIMUM WAGE By New York Times

The House agreed to raise the federal minimum wage by \$1 to \$6.15 an hour but coupled the measure to a \$123 billion tax-cut package sponsored by the Republicans that drew a threatened veto from President Clinton, imperiling the wage increase.

Republicans staged separate votes on the two measures, seeking to defuse a politically potent Democratic issue in the November election by promoting one of their own tax cuts, and then merged the two measures into one bill. The political effect, however, is that the measures cancel each other out.

The final vote on the wage increase was 282 to 143. Earlier, lawmakers voted to approve a Democratic amendment that would spread the increase over two years instead of three, which would provide low-income workers with more money, faster.

CHINA TRADE BILL LACKS VOTES By Eric Schmitt

The Clinton administration conceded that it did not yet have the votes to pass a decisive China trade accord, as a lobbying battle was shaping up for the 130 or so uncommitted House members who will decide the fate of the president's most important remaining foreign policy goal.

The fight over whether to grant permanent normal trading privileges to China reveals fault lines in the political and business communities that will surely grow by June, when the House will probably vote.

Odd coalitions have sprung up in opposition, from liberal Democrats who abhor China's labor and

environmental standards to conservative Republicans who criticize Beijing's human rights record and threats against Taiwan.

A day after President Clinton formally called on lawmakers to approve the accord, Commerce Secretary William Daley conceded that the outcome, particularly in the House, is too close to call.

U.S. HELICOPTERS DELIVER AID TO MOZAMBICAN FLOOD VICTIMS By Andrew Selsky, Associated Press

After several days of waiting in neighboring South Africa for the go-ahead, U.S. helicopters touched down Thursday and began speedily delivering thousands of pounds of rice to hungry flood victims. But heavy rains kept aid from most of the country.

The shipment by the U.S. Air Force of 15,000 pounds of rice and other aid went smoothly, and forces were able to deliver sacks to villages along the hard-hit Save River valley in central Mozambique, where the sun was shining. U.S. aid had intended to focus on central Mozambique.

Continued rain was a nightmare outside of destitute Mozambique, as well. Aid agencies Thursday rushed food, medicine and blankets to more than 700,000 flood victims in the nearby Indian Ocean island of Madagascar. Flooding in recent weeks has killed 130 people.

Mozambican Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi flew in and reassured the helicopter crews they had arrived in time. "We need aircraft because there are still lives to be saved," Mocumbi said. "If there is one life to be saved, you're never late."

SPORTS

FLYERS SNAP CAPITALS' STREAK By New York Times

Gino Odjick scored on a breakaway early in the third period to give Philadelphia the lead as the Flyers beat Washington 3-1, snapping Washington's six game unbeaten string.

OTHER NHL SCORES:

Ottawa 7 Pittsburgh 0

PACERS BEAT TRAIL BLAZERS IN OT By New York Times

Mark Jackson hit a trio of 3-pointers in overtime and scored 10 of his season-high 23 points in the extra period to spark Indiana over Portland 127-119 The victory stretched the Pacers' franchise-record home winning streak to 25 games.

OTHER NBA SCORES:

San Antonio 105 Atlanta 79 Minnesota 100 Dallas 79

MEN'S TOP-25 NCAA SCORES:

SAIN	T LOUIS	68	(1) CINCINNATI	58
(9)	ARIZONA	86	(2) STANFORD	81
(3)	DUKE	94	CLEMSON	63
(6)	TEMPLE	71	VIRGINIA TECH	52
(11)	FLORIDA	89	MISSISSIPPI	67
GEOR	GETOWN	76	(12) SYRACUSE	72
(14)	TULSA	71	RICE	51
(19)	ST. JOH	N'S	75 VILLANOVA	70
(21)	CONNECT	CUT	79 SETON HALL	64
(23)	MIAMI,	FLA.	61 NOTRE DAME	58
(24)	KANSAS	84	KANSAS STATE	60

CONGRATULATIONS!

EAW S

AS2 (AW) Athen Viney
HM1 (SW/FMF/AW) Gida Mamaril
ABH3 (AW) William Moody
ABH3 Edgar Romanreyna

GUESTS SAY GOODBYE

To COMPHIBRON THREE and staff, Capt. Keith and the crew of USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6), Col. Zilmer and 15th MEU(SOC):

On behalf of "Petty Officer" Andy Hunne and myself, "Chief" Ray Free, I would like to thank the men and women of USS BONHOMME RICHARD for the wonderful welcome extended to us during the last 8 weeks. We will be making our way back to Australia during your stay in Phuket.

You have been unfailingly polite, courteous and professional in all dealings with us. We have both enjoyed our stay onboard "The Big Deck" and our week on USS DENVER was also quite an experience. If given the chance to sail on a U.S. ship again, we would both jump at the opportunity.

Hopefully we have provided, in the area of support and assistance, as required. The "cultural exchanges" were also interesting! What with being "good to go," getting someone "hooked up," asking "What's up?" and the occasional "Hoorah!" people back home won't have a clue what we are talking about. But, "No worries!"

We wish you all the best for the remainder of WESTPAC 2000 and we will watch your progress from afar with interest and fond memories.

Smooth seas and a following swell. "Chief" Ray Free and "Petty Officer" Andy Hunne, Royal Australian Navy, Tactical Electronic Warfare Support Section.



"Petty Officer" Andy Hunne and "Chief" Ray Free bid farewell to Sailors and Marines of the Bonhomme Richard ARG. (Photo by JO1(SW) Robert W. Garnand.)

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U.S. NAVY BEACH GUARD OFFICE TEL: (076) 343001, 340301

FLEET LANDING PIER TEL: (01) 396-6414, (01) 3966415

BANGKOK PHUKET HOSPITAL TEL: (076) 254-421 THRU 429

ROYAL THAI NAVY 3RD FLEET TEL: (076) 391598
PATONG BEACH POLICE (KATHU) TEL: (076) 191
TOURIST POLICE TEL: (076) 212468
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PAGERS: 271631, 271632, 271633, 271634

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CELL PHONE/PAGER USE

Call Cellular Phone to Cellular Phone, do not use 01

Call Bangkok, use area code 02, then phone number

Call Phuket, use area code 076, then phone number

For Pagers, dial 162 and give pager number you wish to contact and message to operator. She will pass message to the desired number within 2 minutes of receiving call.

AT&T/SPRINT/MCI ACCESS AVAILABLE AT BEACHQUARD AT&T PRE-PAID CALLING CARDS ALSO AVAILABLE

ATT: 001-9991-1111, MCI 001-9991-2001, SPRINT 001-9991-3877